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Wholesale and Retail Leading Milliners.

CHRISTMAS REMINDERS

We are offering exceptional values in the following merchandise articles that are practical, useful and would be much appreciated.

Choice Reliable Fur Scarfs and Muffs.... \$2.98 to \$50.00 each
Children's Fur Sets \$1.25 to \$10.00
Handsome Lingerie, Silk or Crepe de Chine.
Shirt Waists 98c to \$5.00
Silk Petticoats \$1.98 to \$6.00
Silk Sweaters \$2.98 to \$8.00
Wool Sweaters \$3.98 to \$8.00
Cloth Coats \$4.98 to \$25.00
Silk Seal Plush Coats \$22.48 to \$50.00
Guaranteed Raincoats \$3.98 to \$16.00
Marabout Feather Stoles and Muffs \$2.98 to \$7.50
Ostrich Neck Boas \$1.48 to \$8.00
Beautiful Millinery at half prices. It pays to trade at Dillon's.

FRANCE BATTLING TOO WITH GREAT PRICES ON FOODS

Bread Only Has Escaped General Rise in Cost Throughout Country.

Paris, Dec. 18.—Nothing has availed to check the increase of the cost of living in France. Bread only has escaped the tendency. Everything else considered, it costs at least 75 per cent. more to live in France today than it did three years ago. War, of course, is the first explanation, but economic experts declare that difficulties of transportation and high freightage form the chief factors and that these difficulties are due largely to the failure of the government to have ever carried out the projects for interior navigation which were urged by de Freycinet, Baudin and Audiffred, years ago. In the opinion of these same economic authorities the failure of France to realize these canal projects has been responsible for her anomalous position in the world-carrying trade.

Although some 200 to 500 miles nearer America and from two hundred to two thousand miles nearer the extreme Oriental markets than Antwerp or Hamburg, the French port of Marseilles before the war was surpassed by those of Belgium and German ports in Central European trade to the Orient, while Bordeaux, Havre and other French Atlantic ports were far behind them in trade with the two Americas. The marvelous internal organization of navigation and transportation in Belgium and Germany enabled them to drain toward their ports nearly all the foreign bound traffic of Central Europe, though lengthening the route and increasing the time of delivery. Geneva, for instance, is further from Antwerp than it is from Bordeaux, yet in 1912 Bordeaux received almost nothing from Switzerland while Antwerp received 31,000 tons to be shipped by its longer route to European ports. In the same year Bordeaux received and forwarded to Geneva only 4,500 tons while Antwerp was a way station for 44,000 tons going into Switzerland.

The new necessities created by the war, however, made Bordeaux the port for 35,000 tons of cotton and grain and other commodities en route for Switzerland in 1915. Economic authorities argue that with proper facilities four years ago Bordeaux would have received a lion's share of the 75,000 tons of incoming and outgoing Swiss traffic in 1912.

The question is one of the Rhine against the Rhone so far as concerns Central European traffic for which

Switzerland acts as a sort of "turntable" and with it are connected intimately the long discussed projects of the Rhone canal, the canal from Marseilles to the Rhone, and the canal from the Rhone to the Gironde with Marseilles and Bordeaux as the termini.

De Freycinet and other far-seeing statesmen who elaborated these canal projects, fell from power before they were realized, but economic authorities believe that the era of reconstruction after the war will see France turning first of all, in the question of transportation.

Two of the most important projected waterways remain to be built; one of them lateral to the Rhone will continue the system from Havre and Paris to Marseilles by way of Lyons and will enable the Rhone to compete with the Rhine for Swiss trade to the Mediterranean; another connecting the Rhone with the Dordogne—that is to say connecting Lyons with Marseilles with Bordeaux—will give Switzerland a shorter route to American ports than that by the Rhine.

Ill-conceived rivalry of the stronger railroad interests is accused of retarding these projects as well as a shorter line, but of the comparatively greater importance, in the North and East connecting the canals of the Escourt, the Meuse, and the Chiers, and serving as connecting link between the iron and coal districts.

Had the canals built and projected been in efficient operation at the beginning of the war, it is probable that they would have eased transportation difficulties so as to have kept the cost of living much nearer normal. They would at least have kept coal from going from 40 francs to 180 francs a ton.

THE WEATHER

New Haven, Dec. 18.—Forecast: fair, probably followed by snow late tonight and Tuesday.

Connecticut: snow tonight and Tuesday, probably heavy; north to northeast gales.
A well defined disturbance is central this morning over Northern Alabama and Georgia. It is causing unsettled weather with snow and rain in the southern districts. Snow was reported from all stations in Tennessee. Pleasant weather prevails generally in other districts east of the Rocky Mountains. The temperatures are generally below the normal except on the south Atlantic coast. In the upper Mississippi valley they are from 10 to 15 below zero. Zero temperatures were also reported from Vermont.

ALMANAC FOR TODAY

Sun rises 7:14 a. m.
Sun sets 4:25 p. m.
High water 5:06 p. m.
Moon rises 12:22 a. m.
Low water 11:05 p. m.

SON OF SANFORD SCHOOL HEAD IS FOUND LIFELESS

Dropped Dead in Power House Following Strenuous Pastimes.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Redding Ridge, Dec. 18.—This community was saddened to learn of the sudden death of Joseph P. son of Daniel S. Sanford, head of the Sanford school. The boy's lifeless body was found early yesterday morning just inside the door of the building on the school premises which is used as a power house and garage. At 10:30 Sunday evening young Sanford went to the power house alone to shut off the electric lights. He turned the switches but had not shut off the engines which was an essential part of the task he was sent to do. It is believed that while at the switchboard he had an attack of faintness and started for the door to get air. Before he could open it he was partially overcome and expired in the position in the position in which he fell. The cause of death is not positively determined but is supposed to have been due to cerebral hemorrhage. Dr. Smith has reported the case to the coroner who may decide upon an autopsy.

Young Sanford had been complaining of a headache for two or three days but didn't think it serious enough to call in a physician. On Saturday afternoon he played with a school team in a game of basketball against the second team. In the evening he took part in a swimming match at the school and won first prize. He left at 10:30 o'clock to go to the power house to turn off the light. That was the last seen of him alive. Young Sanford was a leader in the school both in regards to studies and athletics. He was a star on the baseball, football and basketball teams. He was to enter Yale next summer. Last summer he was at the military training camp at Plum Island where he underwent a thorough physical examination. He was pronounced perfectly sound. His parents are overwhelmed with grief. His mother cannot bring herself to believe that he is dead, clinging to the hope of suspended animation.

HELD AS VAGRANT, MAY GO TO POUND

There is a prisoner at police headquarters who occupies cell No. 10. He is charged with vagrancy and annoying persons in the streets, but these allegations will be nulled if anyone desiring a perfectly healthy and intelligent dog desires to adopt him.

An irascible gentleman brought him into headquarters this morning when he was named "Bones," the beastly thing follows me wherever I go. For a month now he has annoyed me. Please look him up."

Inasmuch as the dog has no home it is probable that he'll wind up in the pound, if someone doesn't adopt him.

SCHOOLBOY IS INJURED PLAYING IN CLASSROOM

Playing in his classroom at the Wheeler school this morning, proved a disastrous pastime for Frank Harrison, 11 years, of 1031 North avenue. A schoolmate tripped the boy, throwing him to the floor. His left hip is severely injured and his legs and body bruised. He was treated by Dr. S. I. Aranki, of the emergency hospital and then removed by the physician to his home.

AMERICA ASKED TO AID S. P. C. A. OF THE BRITISH

Want Cash to Help Dumb Animals on Battlefields of Europe.

New York, Dec. 18.—The humane societies of the principal cities and towns throughout the United States and Canada have been formally invited to co-operate with the American S. P. C. A., of New York, in organizing a campaign to raise \$500,000 with which to carry on the work of the Royal S. P. C. A., of Great Britain, in alleviating suffering among the dumb animals on the battlefields of Europe. Prominent persons identified with humane work in each city are expected to take part in the movement, which is already well under way in many places.

The campaign has just opened here under the auspices of the American S. P. C. A., whose board of Governors has started the British Fund with a contribution of \$1,000. Subscriptions by individuals are beginning to come in, more than \$5,000 having been received already. An auxiliary of the Royal Society has been formed in New York with a large membership of prominent humanitarians, and branches are to be established in the principal cities of the United States and Canada, with a view to the collection of half-million dollars within six months.

With the Duke of Portland as chairman and the King and Queen and many British notables as patrons, the Royal Society has saved literally tens of thousands of sick and wounded cavalry mounts, artillery horses, and transport mules, which otherwise would have been lost. It is the only voluntary organization that is permitted by the British war office to co-operate with the Army Veterinary Corps at the front. Queen Alexandra and King George and Queen Mary were among the first subscribers to its fund, which is expended under the supervision of the war office, for the erection at the front of veterinary hospitals with "wards" and "beds" for thousands of horses.

For the first time in warfare animals receive virtually the same care as that given to sick and wounded men. Men are drawn from ambulances and used in the conveyance of wounded animals, operations are performed under anaesthetics, and the latest and most scientific methods employed. The efforts to prevent needless suffering are emphasized by numerous instances in which humane workers, as well as troopers, have been "potted" because they exposed themselves under fire to end the misery of animals that had been injured. The appeal to America for funds to carry on the work was necessitated by the financial exhaustion at home, according to Richard H. Rees, the Royal Society's delegate in this country.

"In view of the necessity of the work consequent upon the indispensability of horses and mules in the war," said Mr. Rees, "it was decided to go on with the erection of additional hospitals at the front and to trust that the financial requirements will be met by Canada and the United States. It is not generally known that motor vehicles, notwithstanding their universal use in the war, cannot usually advance within five miles of the firing line, on account of trenches, shell craters and other obstructions. Horse and mule traction is, therefore, the only means of transport in the danger zones, and the number of animals so employed runs into the millions, of which about 100,000 in the British Army alone are constantly on the sick and wounded list."

Col. Alfred Wagstaff and Henry Bergh, president and treasurer, respectively, of the American S. P. C. A., have taken similar positions with the Royal Society's Auxiliary here. Offices have been opened at No. 1 Madison avenue, New York city, to which contributions, addressed to Henry Bergh should be directed.

MANY BURGLARIES REPORT TO POLICE

Three young men Saturday held up a woman clerk in Joseph Halebian's confectionery store, 1370 Main street, each having a gun in his hand which he thrust in the girl's face. They took \$40 from a cash register. The girl storekeeper, Miss Eva Herzog, was alone in the store at the time. Despite the girl's screams for aid the men managed to escape.

C. J. Strickland, who conducts a pool room at 1822 Seaview avenue, was beaten on the head with the butt of a cue, by two young men and his cash register was looted of \$3, Saturday evening.

Harry Greenwood of 326 Warren street, while walking in Broad street near Gilbert Saturday night, was held up at the muzzles of revolvers, by two men who relieved him of his watch and chain and were frightened away while searching his clothing for money.

Burglars looted the homes of Mrs. F. W. Angle, 379 Fairfield avenue, Mrs. Jane A. Hall, widow of Judge Frederick W. Hall, 281 Mill street, and the residence of Vincent Kincaid, 1078 Laurel avenue, between Saturday night and Sunday morning. The Kincaid residence was entered by forcing a rear door and jewels in a small bag, valued at \$1,000, were taken.

Mrs. Angle's home was robbed of personal effects valued at \$500 and although passersby saw the men flee from the house by sliding down a water spout, they failed to notify the police. Police headquarters is almost directly across from the scene of the burglary. Mrs. Hall suffered the loss of about \$300 of jewelry, mostly rings and pins.

SNOW WAY DOWN IN TENNESSEE

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 18.—Midlife Tennessee was under a bristling snowstorm this morning which seemed to reach its greatest intensity at Nashville. Six inches of snow had fallen here by 8 a. m., and it was still falling. The temperature then was 24 degrees. Street railway traffic is greatly impeded.

The Smith-Murray Co.

1061 Main St. and 149 Fairfield Ave.

Bridgeport's Busy Cash Store.

Open Evenings Until Christmas

Why Is Santa So Fond of Handkerchiefs? Because Men, Women and Children Like Christmas Handkerchiefs

It will be a real pleasure to choose the gift ever popular from the large space we have devoted to handkerchiefs. Late shipments are coming daily, which will keep our stocks fresh and complete up to the last minute.

Men's Fine Quality Hemstitched Handkerchiefs

In seven different styles initials, six in box for 50c

Men's pure linen fine quality initial handkerchiefs, six in box 90c

Men's Irish linen handkerchiefs, fine quality, all initials 25c each

Men's fine quality linen finished handkerchiefs, all initials, wide hem, 2 in box 25c

Children's pure linen handkerchiefs, embroidered corners with initial, 3 in box for 25c

Women's Beautiful Embroidered Handkerchiefs

Boxed, showing six different initials, in white and colored embroidery, 6 in box for 50c

Women's fine sheer quality lawn handkerchiefs, white and colored, embroidered, 3 in box for 25c

Women's fine quality pure linen handkerchiefs, in a full range of beautiful embroidered designs, 35c ea, 3 for \$1.00

Women's pure linen handkerchiefs, embroidered corners with initial, in white and colored, 6 in box for 79c

Children's fine quality cotton handkerchiefs, all initials (3 in fancy box for 15c

No Better Gift Than Good Gloves

Ladies' washable kid gloves, tan and ivory, extra value \$1.00 pr.

Ladies' French kid gloves, excellent soft quality, perfect fitting, tan and white, \$1.50 pr.

Ladies' washable cape gloves in tan and pearl with fancy embroidered backs \$1.50 pr.

Children's gray Mocha gloves, good heavy quality for wear, size 5 to 12 \$1.00 pr.

Children's washable kid gloves in a dark tan only, heavy soft quality, all sizes \$1.25 pr.

Why Not a Silk Waist?

We are showing a large variety of waists in tub silk, crepe de chine, lace waists in fancy stripe taffeta at \$2.00

White voile waists of fine quality, also organdie, trimmed with lace and embroidery \$1.00

For the Baby

Infants' sacques and sweaters, plain white, white and pink, .50c and \$1.00

Infants' long and short white lawn dress of fine quality, lace trimmed and pin tucks 50c to \$2.98

The Smith-Murray Co.

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL CHRISTMAS.

Worthy Jewelry Not High in Price

FAIRCHILD Jewelry is worthy—distinctive, artistic and reasonably priced. FAIRCHILD Gifts are always satisfactory—because they are Not cheaply elaborate—because they are up to the right standard of workmanship—because they show really pleasing designing.

GOLD BEADS
Heavy, solid 14K Gold—will not dent—on string or chain—just like Grand-ma's. \$10, \$12, \$15, \$18, \$20.

GIFT WATCHES
OF GUARANTEED EXCELLENCE
The assemblage of watches is really wonderful—every new style—all accurate time keepers, \$25 to \$500.

BRACELETS
In solid 14K Gold—plain and fancy—new effects in Green Gold, \$5 to \$200.00.

G. W. FAIRCHILD & SONS, Inc.
997 MAIN STREET ARCADE CORNER
IT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR WHAT YOU PAY THAT COUNTS

ESTABLISHED 1868.

ST. LUKE'S CANVASS BRINGS IN \$14,600

St. Luke's workers gathered in the parish hall of the mission at 9 o'clock Saturday evening to hand in the final reports, receive congratulations of all for their untiring efforts and present the Rev. George O. Tamblin, the campaign manager, a very handsome gold watch, as a token of their appreciation of his efforts in making the campaign the success which it indisputably was. St. Luke's has gained \$14,600 in small subscriptions.

While \$50,000 was the amount named on the broadside sent throughout the city, \$25,000 of that amount was to be obtained by the sale of the present site at Stratford avenue and Sixth street.

The total has been a tremendous success, for the workers with almost no exceptions are those who are employed throughout the day. They have given every evening for two weeks canvassing the city from one end to the other. The organization and the campaign system was made by Mr. Tamblin, pastor of Olivet Congregational church, who went into the work to aid the rector in procuring the parish hall which would be the recreation centre for young men and young women of all denominations.

Rev. William H. Jepson, minister in charge of the Episcopal mission, expressed his sincerest appreciation of all the efforts made by those in the campaign army and was sincerely grateful to the city at large for the support of the enterprise. The East Side needed an Episcopal church

It's plain common sense to keep all your treasures in a Safe Deposit Box—where security is certain.

You do not keep all of your money around the house—then why leave your Heirlooms, Silver and valuable papers where thieves can steal or fire destroy them?

For as little as \$5 a year, you can rent a Safe Deposit Box in our Fire and Burglar proof vault—where your personal property will be out of harm's way.

"Ask Our Customers."

FIRST BRIDGEPORT NATIONAL BANK

STATE AND MAIN STREETS

which would meet the needs of the rapidly growing districts. The East Side will have the much needed church and parish hall, through the co-operation of the people as a whole.

ADVERTISE IN THE FARMER

The Kewanee Boiler Co. of Kewanee, Ill., increased its capital from \$500,000 to \$2,000,000.

Edward C. Wall of Woburn, Mass., was elected captain of the Georgetown football team.

BEGIN YOUR 1917 MERRY CHRISTMAS NOW

Get the saving habit and save for a Christmas fund, for an education, for taxes or for any special event

Join Our Christmas Savings Club WHICH STARTS DECEMBER 15, 1916

In Class 25—You pay 25 cents each week for 50 weeks, making the total payments \$12.50, all of which is returned to you during the week of Dec. 15th, 1917.

In Class 50—You pay 50 cents each week for 50 weeks, making the total payments \$25.00, all of which is returned to you during the week of Dec. 15th, 1917.

In Class 100—You pay in \$1.00 each week for 50 weeks, making the total payments \$50.00, all of which is returned to you during the week of Dec. 15th, 1917.

In Class 200—You pay in \$2.00 each week for 50 weeks, paying in a total of \$100.00, all of which is returned to you during the week of Dec. 15th, 1917.

In Class 500—You pay in \$5.00 each week for 50 weeks, paying in a total of \$250.00, all of which is returned to you during the week of Dec. 15th, 1917.

You May Join as Many Classes as You Wish Club Begins FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1916

Come into the bank and let us tell you all about the plan

THE AMERICAN BANK & TRUST CO.

THE EAST SIDE BANK

863 EAST MAIN STREET

Near Barnum Ave.